IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

FREDERICK W. SMITH, JR.,

Petitioner BelowAppellant,

V.

Court Below—Family Court

of the State of Delaware,

in and for New Castle County

File No. CN99-07372

Respondent BelowAppellee.

Petition No. 06-38748

Appellee.

Submitted: January 29, 2007 Decided: February 13, 2007

Before STEELE, Chief Justice, HOLLAND, and RIDGELY, Justices.

ORDER

This 13th day of February 2007, it appears to the Court that:

(1) The appellant has filed a notice of appeal from a decision of a Family Court Commissioner dated December 29, 2006. The Clerk of the Court issued a notice to the appellant to show cause why the appeal should not be dismissed for this Court's lack of jurisdiction to consider a direct appeal from an order of a Commissioner of the Family Court. The appellant filed a response to the notice to show cause on January 29, 2007, which does not address this Court's jurisdictional limitations.

(2) A Commissioner's order is not a final judgment for purposes of appeal to this Court.¹ A party's right of review from a Commissioner's order shall be to a judge of the Family Court.² Accordingly, this Court lacks jurisdiction to consider this appeal in the first instance.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the appeal is hereby DISMISSED.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Myron T. Steele Chief Justice

¹ See Redden v. McGill, 549 A.2d 695 (Del. 1988).

² Del. Code Ann. tit. 10, § 915(d) (1999).